

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Method of tracking communications usage time by a controller within a phone unit during a call comprising:

counting time increments in response to initiation of the call;

in response to termination of the call, determining a call count of a total call time duration based on the time increments; [[and]]

modifying the call count based on calling plan parameter by reducing the call count proportional to a pre-determined discount specified in the calling plan parameters for discounting an incoming call;

summing the modified call count with at least one other call count from at least one other call; and

determining an accumulated call count from the summing.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising; subtracting the modified call count from a time ration; and determining a remaining call count from the subtracting.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein modifying the call count comprises rounding the call count up to a nearest whole minute based on a setting in the calling plan parameters to round to the next whole minute.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein modifying the call count comprises subtracting an initial open connection time from the call count.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein modifying the call count based on calling plan parameters comprises reducing the call count proportional to a pre-determined discount specified in the calling plan parameters for discounting a nighttime call within cutoff times for nighttime hours.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein modifying the call count based on calling plan parameters comprises reducing the call count proportional to a pre-determined discount specified in the calling plan parameters for discounting a weekend call within cutoff times for weekend days.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising; providing a special usage parameter; calculating a special call count based on the special usage parameter and the modified call count.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a long distance parameter, and the special call count comprises a long distance usage count.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a local distance parameter, and the special call count comprises a local distance usage count.

Claim 12 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a nighttime usage parameter, and the special call count comprises a nighttime usage count.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a weekend usage parameter, and the special call count comprises a weekend usage count.

Claim 14 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a peak usage parameter, and the special call count comprises a peak usage count.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the special usage parameter comprises an off-peak usage parameter, and the special call count comprises an off-peak usage count.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A computer usable medium including a program for tracking communications usage time comprising:

computer readable program code for counting time increments in response to initiation of a call;

computer readable program code in response to termination of the call, for determining a call count of a total call time duration based on the time increments;
[[and]]

computer readable program code for modifying the call count based on calling plan parameters by reducing the call count proportional to a pre-determined discount specified in the calling plan parameters for discounting an incoming call;

computer readable program code for summing the modified call count with at least one other call count from at least one other call; and

computer readable program code for determining an accumulated call count from the summing.

Claim 17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The computer usable medium of claim 16 further comprising;
computer readable program code for subtracting the modified call count from a time ration; and
computer readable program code for determining a remaining call count from the subtracting.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The computer usable medium of claim 16 wherein modifying the call count comprises rounding the call count up to a nearest whole minute based on a setting in the calling plan parameters to round to the next whole minute.

Claim 20 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 16 wherein modifying the call count comprises subtracting an initial open connection time from the call count.

Claim 21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The computer usable medium of claim 16 wherein modifying the call count based on calling plan parameters comprises reducing the call count proportional to a pre-determined discount specified in the calling plan parameters for discounting a nighttime call within cutoff times for nighttime hours.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The computer usable medium of claim 16 wherein modifying the call count based on calling plan parameters comprises reducing the call count proportional to a pre-determined discount specified in the calling plan parameters for discounting a weekend call within cutoff times for weekend days.

Claim 24 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 16 further comprising;
computer readable program code for providing a special usage parameter;
computer readable program code for calculating a special call count based on the

special usage parameter and the modified call count.

Claim 25 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 24 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a long distance parameter, and the special call count comprises a long distance usage count.

Claim 26 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 24 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a local distance parameter, and the special call count comprises a local distance usage count.

Claim 27 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 24 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a nighttime usage parameter, and the special call count comprises a nighttime usage count.

Claim 28 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 24 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a weekend usage parameter, and the special call count comprises a weekend usage count.

Claim 29 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 24 wherein the special usage parameter comprises a peak usage parameter, and the special call count comprises a peak usage count.

Claim 30 (Original): The computer usable medium of claim 24 wherein the special usage parameter comprises an off-peak usage parameter, and the special call count comprises an off-peak usage count.

Claim 31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A method of tracking communications usage time by a controller of a cellular telephone unit during a call comprising:

counting time increments by a timer in response to the initiation of a call;

determining a call count of a total duration of the call based on time increments counted by the timer;

modifying the call count based on calling plan parameters for the cellular telephone unit by reducing the call count proportional to a pre-determined discount specified in the calling plan parameters for discounting an incoming call; and

storing the modified call count in the memory of the cellular telephone unit.